

Message Text

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45

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 STRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAЕ-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

NEA-10 /128 W

----- 107045

O 241310Z FEB 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1180

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 1308

H PASS CODEL

PASS AGRICULTURE

PASS STR FOR INFO

PASS STR ELECTRICALLY (S/S-O NOTIFY HEFFERAN OR STEINBOCK
395/3500)

EO 11652: N/-

TAGS: MTN, ETRD

SUBJECT: OAS/SCCN MEETINGS IN GENEVA

1. US MTN DEL HAS RECEIVED OAS SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL CIES/
CECON-COMERICO/96 PREPARED FOR TENTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC
GROUP ON TRADE. IT IS NOT READILY APPARENT WHAT ADDITIONAL
PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR
US-LATIN AMERICAN CONSULTATIONS ON MTN ISSUES IN GENEVA,
NOR FOR ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE AND STAFF IN GENEVA TO SUPPORT
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THOSE CONSULTATIONS. PRESUMABLY, SUCH CONSULTATIONS

AS ARE DESIRED WHICH ARE WITHIN THE SCCN COMPETENCE CAN BE HELD IN WASHINGTON, WHERE US MTN POSITIONS ARE PREPARED, OR IN OTHER HOST COUNTRIES UNDER EXISTING PROCEDURES. RESULTS OF THESE CONSULTATIONS ARE COMMUNICATED TO GOVERNMENTS AND CONSIDERED IN THE PREPARATION OF INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE MTN DELEGATIONS.

2. US MTN DE HAS FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

(A) ISSUE OF OBSERVERS AT MTN MEETINGS IS AN EXTREMELY SENSITIVE ONE WHICH HAS BEEN CAREFULLY NEGOTIATED. SHOULD QUESTION OF OAS OBSERVER ARISE, IT COULD REOPEN OBSERVER ISSUE AND BRING UNACCEPTABLE REQUESTS FOR OBSERVERS FROM NUMEROUS OTHER REGIONAL GROUPINGS.

(B) LATIN AMERICAN AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRY MTN PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE MTN FROM BOTH THE GATT AND UNCTAD SECRETARIATS. IN ADDITION, ECLA HAS AN MTN ADVISORY PROJECT UNDERWAY TO ASSIST LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS IN THIS AREA.

(C) BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS OF ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL OFFICE, ESPECIALLY IN SUCH HIGH-COST AREA AS GENEVA, SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

(D) OAS SECRETARIAT APPEARS TO BE SUGGESTING AN UNACCEPTABLE EXPANSION OF AG/RES 201 WHICH WAS INTENDED TO BE A RESTATEMENT OF TOKYO DECLARATION COMMITMENTS IN THE INTER-AMERICAN FORUM, NOT AN AUTHORIZATION FOR OAS SECRETARIAT TO EXPAND ITS WORK PROGRAM IN THE MTN.

3. US MTN DEL REALIZES THAT IT MAY BE JUDGED IMPOLITIC FOR US TO OPENLY OPPOSE OAS SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL AND DOES NOT WISH TO CONVEY IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE SEEKING AVOID CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICANS ON MTN ISSUES, WHICH WE BELIEVE ARE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF BOTH THE US AND LATIN AMERICA. WE DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE LIMITED ABILITY AND POTENTIAL LIABILITY OF SEEKING TO FURTHER INTERJECT A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REGIONAL ORGANIZATION INTO A NEGOTIATION THAT IS ALREADY WELL UNDERWAY SHOULD BE POINTED OUT. WALKER

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NNN

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